Linguistic Composition of Maharashtra

1230. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHAN--DRA JICHKAR:

SHRI TULASIDAS MAJJI:

WiU the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS fee pleased to state;

(a) whether the linguistic compositk n of Maharashtra is available under the Linguistic Survey of India;

(b) if so, to which year the data . er-tains;

(c) whether a new survey is being con-ducted after the 1991 census; and

(d) what are the salient features of the linguistic composition of Maharashtra based on the existing survey?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise in view of reply to part (a).

(c) A fresh linguistic survey which has been taken up as a plan project from the 6th Plan is continuing as a 8th Plan project.

(d) Tie survey for Maharashtra has not been taken up and hence this Infor-. station is not available.

Origin of Amnesty International

1231. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what & the legal standing, compo-sition and origin of Amnesty International;

(b) whether Government's attention has| been drawn to its 1993 report in which it had held India guilty of abuse of| human rights in J and K;

(c) how many teams of Amnesty Inti national have so far visited ladia par cularly J & K and Punjab; and

(d) what action Government propc to take to counter this propaganda?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN Lb MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAiRS (SHJ RAJESH PILOT): (a) Amnes / Intern tionai is a world wide voluruuiy niov ment with Headquarters [m] London. was founded in 1961 when it essential worked for the release of pri: oners conscience. At the end of 1993, if hi more than 1,100,000 members, subscribe and regular donors in over 150 couatri and territories. 4439 local oiganis;.tioi are registered with the Amnesty jnte: national Secretariat in over 80 countrie These groups are coordinated by count! sections.

'(b) The Amnesty International ha published a report in December, 199 titled 'An unnatural Fate — Disappear ances and Impunity in the Indian Stat; of Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab' 1h said report was examined in detail an appropriate response was sent to our Mi; sions abroad.

(c) A two member delegation had vis ted Bombay during 9-1-94 to 16-1-9- The said delegation also had a brief sto over at Delhi on 6-7 January, 1994 wher they met the Central Government offi cials.

(d) The Government of India have a along firmly denied allegations mrde b the Amnesty International. The Govern ment has also categorically stated tha whenever complaints of excesses are rece ived against members of the police|secur ity forces, action is taken against them The Government have regularly issuei clarifications through the med'a a~d th rough wide circulation of detsiled comm ents whenever such allegations Pre made When specific allegations arc brought ti notice by Amnesty International, we regularly provide them factual informa tion.